

The pleasure which I have in making exact drawings and in knowing the difference of varieties has produced a pretty collection of drawings, which may amount to 3 thousands pieces or more, bound in 11 volumes in 4^{to}, to which I add every new form, which I get; it would be easy to pick out many decades of unknown forms, but as it is so difficult to have some figures in German papers, they must rest in my shrine.

You have asked my photograph for Your collection; You would oblige me very much in returning me Yours, although I cannot say that I have a collection, but I should be pleased to see You at the side of M^r. Sullivant.

Yours most sincerely

D^r. Gottsche.

Answer
Save up for A.S.

Altona 27 September 1869.

Dear Sir

I have duly received Your letter of the 12 Sept. yet I have not been able to answer till now, as I wished to look over my papers before giving You a decisive answer. Our exposition has given me a great deal of trouble and if it is a little less at this time as the jury has given its sentences, it will not end before the close of it (12 October) and after, ^{having} forwarded the unsold instruments to the owners, who entrusted them to my special care. It is not possible for me to make the manuscript in so short a time as You wish and I will be very contented if I have done the whole with the close of the winter, as my practical business takes a great part of the daytime or rather of the daylight and my age (I am 61 years old) does not allow me to work with the microscope by help of the gaslight. As I wish to give a little more than a dry catalogue with the enumeration of the localities, where the plant was gathered I must revive the impression by a renewed aspect of the plant itself, although every Cuban plant, even those which are common to other lands, lay in perfect dissection and for the most part of 2 or three fructifications before me in a drawing (17/1) in 4^{to}, made through the prism. I see by Your last letter that my memoir will not make a part of D^r. Wright's

work, but will be published separately; of course it will be of no consequence whether it comes a little sooner or a little later, still You may depend upon, that I will do all my possible to arrange the manuscript as fast as I can. As for the printing I am very pleased that You will help me, but as for the engraving of the figures, my Dear Sir, I am not able to contribute anything to these expenses as the condition of my purse does not allow me such extravagances. I suppose that I could have printed this memoir in Germany or in the *Linnaea* or perhaps in the *Acta Soc. Leopold.*, if their condition and their pecuniary affairs are reestablished, but I believe it will be far more known and made use of in an American paper than in our *Linnaea*. If no drawings are allowed, the description must be a little more detailed and carefully points out the distinctive characters; what a figure would do much better and easier.

I conceive that Dr. Wright's *Hepaticae* must be divided into sets, if they are to be disposed of for the collectors benefit, but I lament deeply, that I am obliged to tear in to pieces these pretty tufts, whose beauty I often have admired. Mr. Sullivan had given me the same command, still I confess freely, that I could not surmount my dislike.

In Fendler's Collection I am far more back than in Dr. Wright's, but there is enough to give and if I have arranged this, I shall not fail to send You a complete set with the name; but about a paper of *Venezuela Hepaticae* is not to speak till now, I possess only a pretty set of drawings of these plants.

Allow me, my Dear Sir, to tell You one word more about these two collections, which You could believe neglected by me, but beyond my practical business many things take my time. Now and then I am obliged to help my friends with my microscope in trials; some years already I am the president in the microscopical section of the Hamburg Society of natural science, of course I must work for the microscopical meetings, and because very seldom any other member shows or reads something, I am obliged to play once every month the professor. Although this takes my time more than I wished, I should be sorry if this branch of natural science could not stand in its present vigour, which in a town of merchants can only be nursed with the sacrifice of some members. In the 2 last meetings, for instance, I have shown the different construction of the saws of the sawfly, of which my preparations consisted in nearly 100 dissections and 25 drawings in 4^{to}, made through the prism; I had spent in these inquiries nearly 3 months. 1854 when I was at Paris, Mr. Fournier invited me to take part in his enterprise, to arrange a new Flora of France through all orders of vegetation; all this was to be done with full speed! When I got home I was so enthusiastic for this project, that my "*Hepaticae gallicae*" were ready towards the autumn of the next year, and I was to gather the french specimens myself from the Herbaria of french Botanists! Till now Mr. Fournier has not yet demanded my paper; I have spent my time I will not say for nothing, still for the disadvantage of my other tasks and I suppose, that the whole plan is evaporated.